PRESENT :—*cont.*

Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Stanes, Mr. F. J.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Labour

Action taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Labour.

* 91 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what action has been taken by the Local Government to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Labour and when the recommendations will be brought into force so far as this Presidency is concerned ?

A.—The recommendations of the Commission, so far as this Government are concerned, involve in some cases provincial legislation and require in others administrative action by the Local Government. Others still require action by public bodies (e.g., municipalities, universities, etc.), and by employers and their organizations or by workers' unions. Those requiring action by employers have been brought to their notice by the Commissioner of Labour and the desirability of giving early and sympathetic consideration to the recommendations has been impressed on them. The recommendations regarding the housing of the industrial worker and the relief of congestion in urban and rural areas have been communicated to all municipal councils and local boards for information and necessary action. Most of the recommendations in Chapter XXII relating to the health and welfare of labourers in plantations involve legislation, and these are under detailed examination and will require time for full fruition. With reference to the Commission's recommendation regarding Maternity Benefits legislation, the hon. Member himself has given notice of a motion for leave to introduce, in the Council, a Bill on the lines of the Bombay Act. Regarding the recommendations relating to the machinery for fixing minimum wage and investigation into family budgets of labourers, proposals were called for from the Commissioner of Labour and his report which has been received is under the consideration of Government. The recommendations regarding factories are still under examination by the Commissioner of Labour and the Government are awaiting his report,

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Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether any provincial legislation is under the consideration of the Local Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"The whole question of what provincial legislation is necessary is under the consideration of the Government. It is not possible for me to say anything definite at present."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"Have the Local Government heard anything from the municipal councils and local boards as to any action they are taking on the recommendations of the Commission?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the recommendations of the Commissioner of Labour with regard to minimum wage fixing machinery and investigation of family budgets of labourers will be placed on the table of the House and whether the labour unions will be consulted in the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

Law and Order—General

The 'tali' incident.

* 92 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mrs. L. S. Prabhu refused to take the tali got removed by Mr. Dodwell, the Joint Magistrate of Tellicherry, in lieu of her fine and whether any correspondence took place on that subject between the Government and herself and her husband; and

(*b*) if so, whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to place the same on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Mrs. L. S. Prabhu refused to take back her tali. The correspondence on the subject was with the Jail authorities and was submitted to the Government by the Inspector-General of Prisons.

(*b*) The Government are not prepared to place the correspondence on the table of the House.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether the refusal of Mrs. Prabhu to take back her tali is an absolute refusal or a qualified refusal?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"As far as I remember, she has refused to accept it."